CHAPTER I

GEOGRAPHY AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE CHINESE

THE NAME

'THE name China is a foreign appellation, probably derived from a dynasty which reigned over the Empire in the third century B.C. The Chinese long held it as an ideal that there should be only one political administration for civilized mankind and regarded their own as that government. Hence no pressing need existed to distinguish their country from another. They might speak of China as *Tien Hsia*—"Under Heaven.[7]' The most frequent name employed was *Chung Kuo—"The Middle Kingdom."*
The Chinese often denominated themselves San Jen, or the "Men of Han/' after a famous dynasty of that name. *Tang Jen,* or the "Men of T'ang," after another famous dynasty, was frequently on the lips of the Chinese in the South, The name officially adopted by the Republic is *Chung Hua Min Kuo,* literally, "Central Flowery People's Country," or, better, "Central Flowery Republic."

THE TWO MAIN DIVISIONS OF CHINA

What now appears on the map as China falls into two main parts, China proper, where the major "proportion of the population has long been Chinese, and what, intermittently, have been the outlying sections of the Empire, where until recently the " Chinese have been in the minority^ The distinction between the two divisions is not so closely drawn as in the nineteenth century. Indeed, it is fading and no longer conforms strictly

with administrative and racial realities. Large parts of the dependencies have been officially organized as provinces, with the same status as those of China proper. Chinese have migrated extensively into

[1] In Manchuria and in portions of Inner Mongolia, as we shall see later, Chinese how form the major part of the population.